

## ON SOME SAWFLIES (HYMENOPTERA, SYMPHYTA) FROM UPPER DEESIDE

By A. D. LISTON\*

Dr. M. R. Young, assisted by staff of the Nature Conservancy Council, organised a field meeting of entomologists which was held at Ballater, Aberdeenshire, during the weekend 22nd-24th June 1984. Most of the specimens mentioned below were obtained during this enjoyable gathering. They are now in the collection of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh. I am grateful to Dr. M. R. Shaw for allowing me to consult the Scottish Insect Records Index, housed at the Royal Scottish Museum.

Most of the records here presented concern species which, at least in Scotland, were previously known only in Speyside. The occurrence of very local species such as *Allantus basalis*, *Rhogaster dryas* and *Pristiphora groenblomi* in Deeside indicates that a high degree of similarity may exist between the two sawfly faunas. If their total European distributions are considered, all these species seem to be characteristic of areas with a continental climate.

*Calameuta pallipes* (Klug). One male, Bridge of Dee, 23.6.1984 (A. E. Stubbs). Swept from an area of damp grass on the riverside. This is the most widespread Cephid in Europe, being the only species known in Scotland and Ireland. It has not previously been found north of the Central Lowlands of Scotland.

*Allantus basalis* (Klug). 1 ♀, 1 ♂, Bridge of Dinnet, 22.6.84 (A.D.L.); 1 ♀, 3 ♂, Abergeldie Castle, 23.6.84 (A.D.L.). All swept from a low-growing wild rose species. Two of the male specimens have since unfortunately been destroyed. They have black marked tibiae and tarsi, thus making them very similar to specimens from Central Europe. *A. basalis* was previously known in the British Isles from three females and one male collected in Speyside during the period 1914-1944. The Speyside specimens are of the subspecies *caledonicus* (Benson), with reddish marked tibiae and tarsi. It would obviously be interesting if two discrete races were shown to occur in Scotland, but according to Hellen (1948), intergrades between the two forms occur in Finland, as might be the case here. The foodplant of the Central European ssp. *basalis* is known to be *Rosa*, as my observations indicate, but that of ssp. *caledonicus* is unknown.

*Tenthredopsis litterata* (Fourcroy). 1 ♀, Muir of Dinnet NNR, 24.6.84 (A.D.L.). Characteristically a southern species, it seems to be rare in the northerly parts of Scotland.

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*Rhogogaster dryas* (Benson). 1 ♀, 1 ♂, Crathie Wood, swept from *Populus tremula*, 23.6.84 (A.D.L.). The adults of this species, which is monophagous on aspen, are perhaps the most vividly coloured of all British sawflies. *R. dryas* is known from several English counties, but the only published Scottish records are of four males from Speyside (Benson, 1945; Woollatt, 1961).

*Pseudodineura enslini* (Hering). About a dozen leaf-mines were found on plants of *Trollius europaeus* growing in a meadow near Abergeldie Castle on 23.6.84. Although *Trollius* is locally common at other sites on the banks of the Dee, *P. enslini* could not be detected. The larvae were nearly full-grown when the mines were collected, and a few successfully spun cocoons. A single male emerged in August after having been "overwintered" in a refrigerator. In the British Isles, *enslini* has previously been recorded only from near Bettyhill in Sutherland, and near Grantown-on-Spey in Moray (Benson, 1958).

*Pristiphora groenblomi* (Lindqvist). 1 ♀, Morrone Birkwood NNR, Malaise Trap, 10.5.-1.6.84 (B. D. Batty). Previously in Britain only recorded from Aviemore (Benson, 1958). *P. groenblomi* is placed as a synonym of *coactula* (Ruthe) by Hellén (1975), but stronger evidence is required for such a synonymy because *groenblomi* is rather easily distinguished from the rest of the *coactula-breadalbanensis* complex.

#### References

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PERIDEA ANCEPS GOEZE: GREAT PROMINENT, IN LATE JULY. — On 28 July 1984 I collected a male *Peridea anceps* at M.V. light at the Centre for Alternative Technology, Montgomeryshire. This species usually appears in spring from April to June and so a late July record is not only unusual but raises the question of either a second brood (unlikely) or of an immigrant (equally unlikely). Most probably the moth emerged late or somehow managed to live a long adult life. — DENIS F. OWEN, 66 Scraftoft Lane, Leicester LE5 1HU.